

#167 Only Through a Prophet

1 This evening we are going to examine paragraph 286 of Branham Branham's sermon Christ is the Mystery of God Revealed, and I want you to notice he is focused on how God reveals himself to us, and that it must come through a prophet. Now, you may ask yourself why is that so important that God speaks to us only through a prophet He vindicates? Well, let's read and find out.

2 286 Oh, how I wish I had time to go back into Ezekiel and pull out them dry bones and show you! He said, "Can these bones live again?" He said, "Prophecy." How can prophecy come? Only through the prophet. It's the Word of the Lord. "Hear ye, ye dry bones, the Word of the Lord." And sinew skin come upon them, and they stood up a mighty army, and they begin to march toward Zion. Glory to God. That's Him; that's Him, the victory. The ransomed of the Lord shall come to Zion with joy. All His holy Mountains, nothing hurt or shall destroy. He proves His resurrected Life then as He a-vindicates Himself.

3 Now, notice, brother Branham said, "How can prophecy come? You know that is a really good question, because among the Pentecostal, we have a lot of men claiming to be prophets today because they've had a dream or a vision. There is even a club they have called the prophecy club, and it is rampant with men who claim to be prophets of God because of some dream or vision they have had. But we have got to understand that dreams and visions are not for prophets alone. Dreams and visions according to Joel 2 come via the Spirit of God falling upon all flesh.

4 Joel 2:28 And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh;

5 Notice God is not telling Joel His prophet, that He will pour out His Spirit only upon His own Seed, but He says, I will pour out My Spirit upon all flesh. Now, that is important to know in this hour because many people are seeing visions of the end time, and events that we expect to transpire concerning the end-time, but these people are not prophets of God. They might be prophets but whether they are prophets of men or of God is to be determined.

6 Therefore, what is happening is simply the Spirit of the Lord is being poured out upon all flesh, and these people are seeing things that are to come to pass in this hour, because God wants them to see what is coming.

7 That is why Brother Branham said in his sermon, Modern events made clear by prophecy 65-1206 P:42 Notice, we find today that people... There's many people just can't believe it, even Spirit-filled people.

8 Now, that in itself is a paradox, because we know that unless you have the Spirit of God you can not understand the things of God. That is what Paul taught in 1 Corinthians 2. 10 But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God. 11 For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God knows. 12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

9 And that is the same thing that the Apostle John taught as well when he said, 1 John 2:20 But ye have an unction (an anointing, which is a special endowment) from the Holy One, and ye know all things.

10 Then to see those who have an anointing from God upon their spirit and yet they either do not understand the things of God because God has not revealed them to them, or perhaps because they are just willfully ignorant, and have refused the channel that God chose and that is His prophets. But notice both Paul and John taught us that it takes a special anointing from God of His Spirit for us to know the things of God. And we see that this anointing is a baptism of the genuine Spirit of God upon our own spirit.

11 But notice what brother Branham said in his sermon, Modern events made clear by prophecy 65-1206 P:42 There's many people just can't believe it, even Spirit-filled people. Yes, Spirit filled and yet do not believe because they do not understand, yet spirit filled. Even spirit filled people just can't come to the place where they believe this Message.

12 But notice what he says as we read the entire statement from Modern events made clear by prophecy 65-1206 P:42 Notice, we find today that people... There's many people just can't believe it, even Spirit-filled people. I'm going to give you one that'll choke you. The baptism of the Holy Ghost don't mean you're going in, not at all, not on that, don't have anything to do with your soul. That's the baptism. See? Here's the inside soul in here, that has to come from God. But then on the outside you have five senses, and five inlets to your contact your earthly home. The inside, you have a spirit, and in there you have five outlets: your conscience, and love, and so forth, five outlets to that spirit. Remember, in that spirit you can be baptized with the genuine Spirit of God and still be lost. It's the soul that lives; that was ordained of God. Didn't Jesus say, "Many will come to Me in that day, and say, 'Lord, haven't I cast out devils, done great and mighty works, prophesied, the great gifts of God?'" He said, "Depart from me, you that work iniquity, I never even knew you. Many will come in that day."

13 So what does that Scripture tells us in Matthew 7:23 that brother Branham is quoting here? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity. How can these people do the works of Christ and in His name unless they have the Holy Ghost. so these are people who have received an anointing in their spirit, but they rejected the Word that was given for the day in which they lived. Spirit anointed in their Spirit and yet their soul was not from God. Whew!!! we're getting into something deep here. Very deep.

14 Then brother Branham says, 43 "Didn't Caiaphas prophesy? He was a devil. We find out there... And them priests, them great men, was supposed to be great leaders in them days, with humility and everything else, but failed to see the Word of God Itself made manifest before them. We could just take a bunch of them I got wrote down here.

15 And then he goes on to mention men like Balaam, a genuine prophet of God with a gift, and a genuine anointing upon that gift, yet he used that gift to make himself money, and thus rebelled against the Word of the Lord, and thus became a false prophet.

16 48 Balaam, he couldn't see the difference. Many can't. Pharaoh couldn't see it, though vindicated right before him. Dathan couldn't see It. Dathan come out there, and he seen Moses and knowed. He went out there, said, "You try to think you're the only one in the bunch. The whole congregation's holy." God never did deal with--like that. He ought to have knowed better than that. And he said, "Well, the whole congregation's holy. You try to make yourself (If we'd say it today, the street expression) the only pebble on the beach." And Moses knew that God had sent him down there for that. He just said, "Lord..." fell in the--the doorway of the tabernacle. And God said, "Separate yourself with him." And He swallowed them up.

17 49 And remember, the sin that Israel did (by Balaam saying they're all the same), that sin never was forgiven Israel. And look; let me give you a striking figure; out of two million that left Egypt, two of them went into the promised land. Every one of them eat the same thing; they all danced in the Spirit; they all had everything in common. But when it come to the separating time, the Word done the separating. So is it today. Word done the

separating. When it come time, he said, "Why, here, we're..."It's so close, look that the Bible said in the last days the two spirits (Matthew 24:24) would be so close, it would deceive the very elected if it was possible. That shuck looks just exactly like the wheat, but it ain't the wheat. See? It isn't the wheat, but it looks just exactly like it. See? So close, it would deceive the very elected... You denominated and fall into that denomination, and dry up and die, and the wheat moved right on out through the... See? It's exactly right. It's a carrier but not the wheat.

18 So when a vindicated prophet of God tells us that just having received the baptism of the Holy Ghost doesn't mean you are going in, then it matters not what experience you have had with God, if you are not Gene Seed of God you aren't going to be there. If you have not received that baptism upon a gene seed of God, then no matter who you are you won't be there. For only those ordained to eternal Life will believe.

19 So we are living in a very deceitful age when people think they are right with God and thus righteous because they have receive an anointing upon their spirit, but an anointing upon your spirit does not make you right with God.

20 I have known several people over the years among this Message who at one time or another felt an anointing on their spirit, a baptism of their spirit, at one time or another, but when it came to doing what is right they just couldn't do it.

21 One sister I remember in a little church in Bloomington Indiana when we lived there for a couple years we visited around to the churches, and this sister everyone knew she was living in fornication, and besides that she cut her hair, said it gave her headaches, and one Sunday morning, she testified in church that she had been to a concert the night before and oh did she feel the Holy Ghost, she said, and so she wept in telling her testimony. Now, that sister lied before God and the church. We all knew she had been to the rolling stones concert, where there are so many demons it would make you head swim. But oh, brother could she weep before God in the church assembly, and go right out and live in sin. But brother, could she rejoice in the spirit for everyone to see. But to do what was right and to live a righteous life, there was nothing in her to do it.

22 Look, I've been around this message for 40 years and I've known plenty who have claimed to have received a genuine experience of God in their spirit, and who could even talk the doctrine fairly well, but who also willingly entered into adulterous relationships when the Bible says plainly in, James 4:17 Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin. And we know John 16:9 tells us "sin is unbelief."

23 Oh, what a deceptive hour we are living in, when men will be granted spiritual experiences, yet not surrendering their souls to God.

24 Hebrews 10:26 tells us, For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins.

25 So willful sinners, yet they received some sort of experience in the spirit, and based on that experience they now seem to think they can live any kind of live they wish and God will have to accept them because they had an experience in the spirit, and they believe the doctrine.

26 And among the Pentecostal peoples we see all kinds of fornication and adultery marrying two and three times, and shady business deals and yet they have dreams and some even have visions, so they think they are right with God.

27 Jesus keeps all of his appointments 64-0418E P:103 What is a sinner? Not them who smoke. Smoking's not a sin; drinking's not a sin. Cursing is not a sin. Committing adultery's not a sin. No, no. That's attributes of

unbelief. You do that because you're not a believer. There's only two: one, you are a believer, or you're not a believer. If you're not a believer, no matter how religious you are, you're still a sinner. You're still a sinner, if you don't accept every Word of that Bible, every Word of it. For both heavens and earth will pass away, but not one jot or one tittle will pass from that. And we'll give an account for it. You say, "Well, I belong to church. My people don't..." That don't matter. "I do this." I don't care what you've done. You're either a believer or a sinner. That's pretty strong. But I'm just saying this because the same One that knows the hearts of you, is telling me to say it.

28 And look, we're not just talking about the physical forms here, there are also Spiritual forms of adultery. Brother Branham said right in this sermon, Christ is the mystery 63-0728 P:91 And when the church goes away from the Word to a denomination, she rejects and commits fornications with the world of man's wisdom, rejecting the authority of God's Word. That sound clear? The Bible said committing spiritual fornications... Any word in the Bible that's rejected or if any self-interpretation put to it, it's absolutely rejecting and committing adultery against the God that is your Husband. An adulteress never enters the Kingdom of heaven; we know that. See? Now, see, that's what Eve done at the first place.

29 Now, listen, these are serious issues here, and we had better wake up and take notice. he's not coming for a bride who is adulterates herself to her own ideas above the Word of God, and he's not coming for a bride who is not dressed in the Word. She must be washed in the washing of water of the Word and she must be dressed in the Word. One word missing, and you might as well have an open hole in your dress exposing your nakedness.

30 Notice in Joel he also says, and your sons (not my sons, your sons) and your daughters shall prophesy, (notice prophesy means to preach, and he did not say his daughters would but he said your daughters will. And they do, but there doing shows they are not his daughters.)

31 and your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions: Now these are not people that God is claiming as his own because his language says "your sons", "your daughters", "your old men", "your young men", my Spirit shall anoint them in their spirit and as a result they shall prophecy, and see visions, and have dreams.

32 29 And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit. Notice he doesn't claim these servants and handmaids either. he said, the servants and handmaids, with no claim to them.

33 30 And I will shew wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. 31 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come. 32 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call.

34 So these signs are for the remnant and for the Jews, because the bride has seen her last sign. And that is what we are counting on. God gave us a sign in a vindicating a prophet, and that is the last sign, the sign of messiah, that we have need of. But these other signs in the heavens are not for the children of God, they are for the Remnant he says, and for the Jews in Zion and Jerusalem.

35 So we are looking at a phenomenon that the world can not explain, and neither can the church. But we had a prophet in this hour teach us that their will be false anointed ones who will have a genuine anointing, but they will be false to the Word, with a false Word, and having that false Word makes them the false anointed ones. Not the anointing is false, but the Word they hold to, is false.

36 And so we come back to what God's vindicated Prophet is teaching us here in this sermon, when he says, "Only through the prophet. It's the Word of the Lord."

37 Notice, only through a prophet vindicated by God does it become "The Word of the Lord." But there are too many people who say the Lord says this and the Lord says that. Art thou a prophet to tell us what the Lord says thus?

Then, I don't care how accurate your dreams are, or how accurate your visions might be, if you have them. That doesn't make you a prophet of God nor does that make you a seed of God.

38 Balaam came with visions and dreams, and yet he was a false anointed one. How much more supernatural could you have than a vision or dream that comes to pass, or a donkey speaking in a language that you can understand. That's very supernatural, don't you think?

39 But we hear the prophet Amos tells us in Amos 3:3 "Can two walk together, except they be agreed? 4 Will a lion roar in the forest, when he hath no prey? Will a young lion cry out of his den, if he have taken nothing? 5 Can a bird fall in a snare upon the earth, where no gin is for him? Shall one take up a snare from the earth, and have taken nothing at all? 6 Shall a trumpet be blown in the city, and the people not be afraid? Shall there be evil in a city, and the LORD hath not done it? 7 Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets. 8 The lion hath roared, who will not fear? the Lord GOD hath spoken, who can but prophesy?"

40 And we also find God speak to us about how to tell if a man is a genuine prophet of God or not in Deuteronomy 13:1 If there arise among you a prophet, or a dreamer of dreams, and giveth thee a sign or a wonder, 2 And the sign or the wonder come to pass, but he spake unto thee, saying, Let us go after other gods, which thou hast not known, and let us serve them; 3 Thou shalt not hearken unto the words of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for the LORD your God proveth you, to know whether ye love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul. 4 Ye shall walk after the LORD your God, and fear him, and keep his commandments, and obey his voice, and ye shall serve him, and cleave unto him. 5 And that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams, shall be put to death; because he hath spoken to turn you away from the LORD your God, which brought you out of the land of Egypt, and redeemed you out of the house of bondage, to thrust thee out of the way which the LORD thy God commanded thee to walk in. So shalt thou put the evil away from the midst of thee. 6 If thy brother, the son of thy mother, or thy son, or thy daughter, or the wife of thy bosom, or thy friend, which is as thine own soul, entice thee secretly, saying, Let us go and serve other gods, which thou hast not known, thou, nor thy fathers; 7 Namely, of the gods (elohiym) of the people which are round about you, nigh unto thee, or far off from thee, from the one end of the earth even unto the other end of the earth; 8 Thou shalt not consent unto him, nor hearken unto him; neither shall thine eye pity him, neither shalt thou spare, neither shalt thou conceal him:

41 Now, isn't the plan of God a strange thing that God would anoint men in their spirit when those men live an un-righteous life? But he does it. He said "His Spirit", "the rain" would fall upon both the wheat and the tares.

42 God pours out His spirit unto all flesh. And that is why we live in such a deceptive age in this hour, because "the two spirits would be so close that it would deceive the very elected if it were possible." But we know it is not possible.

43 And we read in Psalm 68:18 that "He gives gifts unto men and to the rebellious also."

44 So God tells us in Deuteronomy 13 that He will allow these people who hold to false teachings and false understandings, or false objects of worship, and ye He allows them to have genuine gifts, in fact he gives them

genuine gifts, and He tells us He will give them to these people for a test, and it is up to you and I to tell "who is who," not based upon any gift they may have, but based on whether they have a righteous and vindicated Word.

45 Then he tells us in Deuteronomy 18:15 The LORD thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken; (now this word hearken means to pay close attention to what he has to say.)¹⁶ According to all that thou desiredst of the LORD thy God in Horeb in the day of the assembly, saying, Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God, neither let me see this great fire any more, that I die not. ¹⁷ And the LORD said unto me, They have well spoken that which they have spoken. ¹⁸ I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and I will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him. ¹⁹ And it shall come to pass, that whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require it of him.

46 Now, what does that mean? It means you will pay the price of ignoring what God has to say. And what is that price? All you have to do is read Deuteronomy chapter 28 where it tells you if you do not hearken to the voice of the Lord your God, you will be cursed coming and you will be cursed going, you will be cursed in the field, and you will be cursed in the city, you will be cursed in your house, and you will be cursed in your family, and you will be cursed in all that you set your hand to do for you did not pay attention to the VOICE of the Lord God to your generation.

47 Then we read on and he tells us, ²⁰ But the prophet, which shall presume to speak a word in my name, which I have not commanded him to speak, or that shall speak in the name of other gods, even that prophet shall die. ²¹ And if thou say in thine heart, How shall we know the word which the LORD hath not spoken? ²² When a prophet speaketh in the name of the LORD, if the thing follow not, nor come to pass, that is the thing which the LORD hath not spoken, but the prophet hath spoken it presumptuously:and thou shalt not be afraid of him.

48 That is why everything about our life and our walk all boils down to one thing, are we walking in the vindicated Light of God and are we taking heed to the words that God has given us in this hour. If so you will be blessed, if not you will be curse.

49 Deuteronomy 28:1 And it shall come to pass, if thou shalt hearken diligently unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe and to do all his commandments which I command thee this day, that the LORD thy God will set thee on high above all nations of the earth: ² And all these blessings shall come on thee, and overtake thee, if thou shalt hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God. ³ Blessed shalt thou be in the city, and blessed shalt thou be in the field. ⁴ Blessed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy ground, and the fruit of thy cattle, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep. ⁵ Blessed shall be thy basket and thy store. ⁶ Blessed shalt thou be when thou comest in, and blessed shalt thou be when thou goest out. ⁷ The LORD shall cause thine enemies that rise up against thee to be smitten before thy face: they shall come out against thee one way, and flee before thee seven ways. ⁸ The LORD shall command the blessing upon thee in thy storehouses, and in all that thou settest thine hand unto; and he shall bless thee in the land which the LORD thy God giveth thee. ⁹ The LORD shall establish thee an holy people unto himself, as he hath sworn unto thee, if thou shalt keep the commandments of the LORD thy God, and walk in his ways. ¹⁰ And all people of the earth shall see that thou art called by the name of the LORD; and they shall be afraid of thee. ¹¹ And the LORD shall make thee plenteous in goods, in the fruit of thy body, and in the fruit of thy cattle, and in the fruit of thy ground, in the land which the LORD sware unto thy fathers to give thee. ¹² The LORD shall open unto thee his good treasure, the heaven to give the rain unto thy land in his season, and to bless all the work of thine hand: and thou shalt lend unto many nations, and thou shalt not borrow. ¹³ And the LORD shall make thee the head, and not the tail; and thou shalt be above only, and thou shalt not be beneath; if that thou hearken unto the commandments of the LORD thy God, which I command thee this day, to observe and to do them: ¹⁴ And thou shalt not go aside from any of the words which I command thee this day, to the right hand, or to the left, to go after other gods to serve them.

50 Now, the word hearken to means to pay close attention to, to listen to carefully and intelligently, to be obedient to, to perceive, discern and take heed to.

51 So we have read the blessings of what God promised to do for them that pay close attention to what His Voice is telling us, but what if we do not pay close attention to the Voice of the Lord our God? And I would like to add, "and how can you pay close attention to it, if you do not even listen to it, read it and study it"?

52 15 But it shall come to pass, if thou wilt not hearken unto the voice of the LORD thy God, to observe to do all his commandments and his statutes which I command thee this day; that all these curses shall come upon thee, and overtake thee: 16 Cursed shalt thou be in the city, and cursed shalt thou be in the field. 17 Cursed shall be thy basket and thy store. 18 Cursed shall be the fruit of thy body, and the fruit of thy land, the increase of thy kine, and the flocks of thy sheep. 19 Cursed shalt thou be when thou comest in, and cursed shalt thou be when thou goest out. 20 The LORD shall send upon thee cursing, vexation, and rebuke, in all that thou settest thine hand unto for to do, until thou be destroyed, and until thou perish quickly; because of the wickedness of thy doings, whereby thou hast forsaken me. 21 The LORD shall make the pestilence cleave unto thee, until he have consumed thee from off the land, whither thou goest to possess it. 22 The LORD shall smite thee with a consumption, and with a fever, and with an inflammation, and with an extreme burning, and with the sword, and with blasting, and with mildew; and they shall pursue thee until thou perish. 23 And thy heaven that is over thy head shall be brass, and the earth that is under thee shall be iron. 24 The LORD shall make the rain of thy land powder and dust: from heaven shall it come down upon thee, until thou be destroyed. 25 The LORD shall cause thee to be smitten before thine enemies: thou shalt go out one way against them, and flee seven ways before them: and shalt be removed into all the kingdoms of the earth.

53 Let us pray